

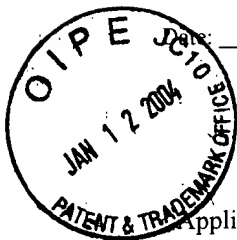
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and attached documents pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.8, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:



Date: 1-6-04

By: [Signature]
Signature of person depositing U.S. Mail

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

PATENT

Applicant: Kruse et al.
Serial No.: 09/868,283
Filed: June 15, 2001
Title: METHOD FOR DARKENING A
SUPERFICIAL LAYER WHICH
CONTAINS ZINC AND WHICH IS OF A
MATERIAL PIECE

Docket No.: 27153.2400
Art Unit: 1742
Examiner: W. Leader
Confirmation No.: 8549

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is the response to the Office Action mailed October 8, 2003.

I. Small Entity Status

[] Small entity status under 37 C.F.R. §§1.9 and 1.27 is claimed.

FEE CALCULATION, CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims remaining after amendment		Highest number previously paid for		Present Extra		Additional Fee
Total Effective Claims	25	minus	28	=	0	x \$ 18.00 =	0.00
Independent Claims	1	minus	2	=	0	x \$ 86.00 =	\$0.00
If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (per application)						\$280.00 +	N/A
						Subtotal:	0.00

**Fee Calculation: Request for Extension of Time
pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Response filed within first month after due date – add	\$ 110.00	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Response filed within second month after due date – add	410.00	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Response filed within third month after due date – add	\$930.00	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Response filed within fourth month after due date – add	\$1450.00	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Response filed within fifth month after due date – add	\$1970.00	N/A

SUBTOTAL: N/A

Discount for “small entity” status, enter half (1/2)
of the second subtotal and **subtract**.

N/A

TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE **\$0.00**

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-2814 in the amount of \$_____.

A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

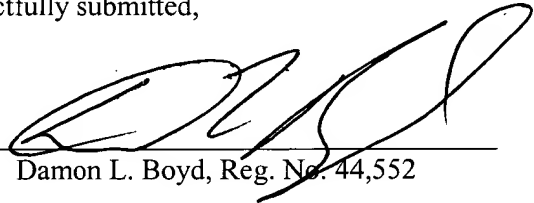
☐ Snell & Wilmer Check #_____ in the amount of \$_____.

☒ No additional fee is required.

This statement does NOT authorize charge of the issue fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any **deficiency** in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.18 (**deficiency** only) now or hereafter relative to this Application and the resulting Official document under 37 C.F.R. §1.20, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-2814 for **which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.**

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6 January 2004

By: 
Damon L. Boyd, Reg. No. 44,552

Snell & Wilmer LLP
One Arizona Center
400 E. Van Buren
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202
phone (602) 382-6337
fax (602) 382-6070